

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:

a variable display device attached to a front door body of the gaming machine,
the variable display device including a plurality of rotatable reels with each reel having a plurality of symbols for variable display for variably displaying a plurality of symbols;

a lottery device for executing a lottery of a winning combination; and

a stop device for controlling the variable display device to shift from variably displaying the plurality of symbols to statically displaying at least one of the plurality of symbols based on a result of the lottery, the stop device including a plurality of stop elements with each one of the plurality of stop elements being associated with a respective one of the plurality of rotatable reels; and

an optically transmissive electric display device provided in front of the variable display device,

wherein the stop device ~~includes one or more stop buttons~~ elements are operable by a player and are attached to the front door body;

wherein the ~~one or more stop buttons~~ elements are provided below the variable display device;

wherein a lower display device is provided below the ~~one or more stop buttons~~ elements, that is also attached to the front door body, and displays images on the basis of image data stored in the image ROM of a lower display panel image control circuit; ~~and~~

wherein the combination of the front door body, the variable display means, the optically transmissive electric display device, the one or more stop buttons and the lower display device is adapted to be used with different games by replacing the image data stored in the image ROM; and

wherein the optically transmissive electric display device is operative in a series of modes such that, for an initial mode, the optically transmissive electric display device reveals only one rotating reel and, when the stop element associated with the rotating reel is activated by the player, the rotating reel stops and the optically transmissive

electric display device reveals only a selected one of the plurality of symbols on the stopped reel and, for a subsequent mode, the optically transmissive electric display device reveals only one rotating reel along with the previously selected one of the plurality of symbols on the previously stopped reel and, when the stop element associated with the rotating reel is activated by the player, the rotating reel stops and the optically transmissive electric display device reveals only a select one of the plurality of symbols on the stopped reel along with the previously selected one of the plurality of symbols on the previously stopped reel.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, further comprising: special game control device for generating a special game state advantageous to the player based on a predetermined condition;

wherein the optically transmissive electric display device is controlled for shielding an optical view from the variable display device in the special game state based on another predetermined condition.

4. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine for executing a lottery of a winning combination being composed of a combination of a plurality of symbols, the gaming machine comprising:

a variable display device attached to a front door body of the gaming machine, the variable display device including a plurality of rotatable reels with each reel having a plurality of symbols for variable display ~~for variably displaying the plurality of symbols;~~
~~one or more a plurality of stop buttons~~ provided below the variable display device, attached to the front door body, ~~the one or more plurality of the stop buttons~~ being utilized for controlling the variable display device to shift from variably displaying the plurality of symbols to statically displaying at least one of the plurality of symbols, each one of the plurality of stop buttons being associated with a respective one of the plurality of rotatable reels;

an electric display device provided below the ~~one or more~~ plurality of stop buttons, that is also attached to the front door body, and displays images on the basis of image data stored in the image ROM of a lower display panel image control circuit; and

an optically transmissive electric display device provided in front of the variable display device;

wherein the combination of the front door body, the variable display means, the electric display device, the one or more stop buttons and the lower display means is adapted to be used with different games by replacing the image data stored in the image ROM; and

wherein the optically transmissive electric display device is operative in a series of modes such that, for an initial mode, the optically transmissive electric display device reveals only one rotating reel and, when the stop button associated with the rotating reel is activated, the rotating reel stops and the optically transmissive electric display device reveals only a selected one of the plurality of symbols on the stopped reel and, for a subsequent mode, the optically transmissive electric display device reveals only one rotating reel along with the previously selected one of the plurality of symbols on the previously stopped reel and, when the stop button associated with the rotating reel is activated, the rotating reel stops and the optically transmissive electric display device reveals only a select one of the plurality of symbols on the stopped reel along with the previously selected one of the plurality of symbols on the previously stopped reel.

5. (Original) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein the variable display device and the one or more stop buttons are visible to and optionally operable by a player.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein the gaming machine generates a special game mode advantageous to the player based on a predetermined condition, the optically transmissive electric display device being

controlled for shielding an optical view from the variable display device during the special game mode.

8. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein the optically transmissive electric display device displays an effect image in the special game mode.

9. (Original) The gaming machine according to claim 8, wherein the effect image in the special game mode is determined by an operation order of the one or more stop buttons.